

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02292 281210Z

53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 INR-07 CIAE-00

/058 W

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R 281044Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5191

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 2292

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, MO

SUBJECT: SPANISH REPORTS OF HASSAN'S ILLNESS

REF: MADRID'S 7348

1. FOR THE RECORD, SPANISH AMBASSADOR HERE, WHO RETURNED ON PLANE WITH ME FROM MADRID ON SEPTEMBER 8, TOLD ME THEN THAT SPANISH HAD WORD KING HASSAN WAS MORTALLY ILL OF SAME DISEASE THAT HAD KILLED HIS FATHER.

2. I EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT MOHAMED V HAD DIED DURING SIMPLE SINUS OPERATION BECAUSE FRENCH SURGICAL TEAM DID NOT MAKE PROVISION FOR RESUSCITATION. A NERVE HAD BEEN CUT BY ACCIDENT, MOHAMED V HAD STOPPED BREATHING AND THEY HAD BEEN UNABLE TO REVIVE HIM. HE HAD BEEN KILLED NOT BY DISEASE BUT BY MEDICAL INCOMPETENCE. SPANAMB STUCK TO HIS STORY, INDICATING THAT MALADY WAS IN NETHER REGION, AND ALL HE KNEW WAS WHAT HE TOLD.

3. IF STORY WAS PLANTED BY ALGERIANS AS SUGGESTED BY GENERAL VALLESPIN, THEY WOULD SEEM TO HAVE PRETTY GOOD ACCESS TO INFORMED GOVERNMENTAL CIRCLES IN MADRID. ALGERIAN PRESS CARRIED STORY BRIEFLY ON FRONT PAGE, BUT HAS NOT MADE GREAT
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PAGE 02 ALGIER 02292 281210Z

DEAL OF IT.PARKER

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